

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

This declaration is of the following type:

- ☒ original
- ☐ design
- ☐ supplemental
- ☐ national stage of PCT
- ☐ divisional
- ☐ continuation
- ☐ continuation-in-part (CIP)

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed for and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

METHOD OF MANUFACTURING AN ANNULAR MEMBER MADE OF
A METAL SHEET HAVING A PERIPHERAL WALL

the specification of which

- ☒ is attached hereto
- ☐ was filed on _____, as
Application Serial No. _____
and was amended on _____
(if applicable)
- ☐ was described and claimed in PCT International application
No. _____ filed on _____
and as amended under PCT Article 19 on _____
(if any).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any Amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Sec. 1.56.

- ☐ In compliance with this duty there is attached an information disclosure statement. 37 CFR 1.97.

09157313-092199

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Sec. 119, of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent of inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

[] no such applications have been filed
[X] such applications have been filed as follows.

Prior Foreign Application(s)

<u>9-272676</u>	<u>Japan</u>	<u>6/10/1997</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> [X]	<input type="checkbox"/> []
(Number)	(Country)	(day/month/year filed)	Yes	No
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<input type="checkbox"/> []	<input type="checkbox"/> []
(Number)	(Country)	(day/month/year filed)	Yes	No

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Sec. 120 of any United States application(s) listed below, and insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Sec. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Sec. 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(patented, pending, abandoned)
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(patented, pending, abandoned)

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agents to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

George M. Cooper, Reg. No. 20,201	Eric S. Spector, Reg. No. 22,495
Felix J. D'Ambrosio, Reg. No. 25,721	Douglas R. Hanscom, Reg. No. 26,600
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I hereby declare all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor Toshiaki KANEMITSU

Inventor's signature Toshiaki Kanemitsu 14/9/1998 (Date)

Residence 1-40, Kasumigaoka 7-chome, Tarumi-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo-ken, Japan

Citizenship Japan

Post Office Address Same as Residence

Full name of second joint inventor, if any Kunihiro HARADA

Inventor's signature Kunihiro Harada 14/9/1998 (Date)

Residence 551-3, Nakajiyugaoka 2-chome, Shijimicho, Miki-shi, Hyogo-ken, Japan

Citizenship Japan

Post Office Address Same as Residence

Full name of third joint inventor, if any Naoki FUJII

Inventor's signature Naoki Fujii 14/9/1998 (Date)

Residence 1-83, Kaminotani 1-chome, Suma-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo-ken, Japan

Citizenship Japan

Post Office Address Same as Residence

Full name of fourth joint inventor, if any _____

Inventor's signature _____ (Date)

Residence _____

Citizenship _____

Post Office Address _____

094318 05135 957250

Applicant or Patentee: Kabushiki Kaisha Kanemitsu Attorney's
Serial or Patent No.: _____ Docket No.: _____
Filed or Issued: _____
For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING AN ANNULAR MEMBER MADE OF
A METAL SHEET HAVING A PERIPHERAL WALL

VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY
STATUS (37 CFR 1.9 (f) and 1.27 (c)) — SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

I hereby declare that I am
☐ the owner of the small business concern identified below:
☒ an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF CONCERN Kabushiki Kaisha Kanemitsu
ADDRESS OF CONCERN 20-26, Ookurahonmachi, Akashi-shi, Hyogo-ken, Japan

I hereby declare that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR 121.3-18, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9 (d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention, entitled METHOD OF MANUFACTURING AN ANNULAR MEMBER
MADE OF A METAL SHEET HAVING A PERIPHERAL WALL by inventor(s)
Toshiaki KANEMITSU, Kunikida HARADA and Naoki FUJII described in

☒ the specification filed herewith
☐ application serial no. _____, filed _____
☐ patent no. _____, issued _____

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed below* and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9 (d) or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9 (d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9 (e).

*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28 (b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING Yukio KANEMITSU
TITLE OF PERSON OTHER THAN OWNER President
ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING 1-40, Kasumigaoka 7-chome, Tarumi-ku,
Kobe-shi, Hyogo-ken, Japan

SIGNATURE YUKIO KANEMITSU DATE 14/9/1998